



GM Agenda February 7th, 2018 12pm Ponderosa Conference Room

- **Call to Order:**

President Ann Wright called meeting to order at 12:04pm

- **Minutes:**

Elizabeth from Clearwater Tribune read minutes and made a motion to approve as written, Paul Pence 2nd the motion. Minutes approved as written.

- **Guests:**

Larry Knewbow with Firehouse Ice introduced himself, he is one of our new chamber members. He is looking at expanding his business to Orofino. He provides ice for Chamber events and has been great to work with, we highly recommend him, and he is very professional and easy to work with.

- **Announcements:**

- Jo Moore with CMPL reported the library will be doing their house demolition this weekend. People can stop by the house today and tomorrow to buy or make a bid on items in the house. There is a water heater, doors, windows, curtains, etc. that people may be interested in purchasing.
- Paul Pence reported there will be a meeting with Idaho Fish and Game at the Clearwater Fish Hatchery to discuss salmon/steelhead fishing, nutrient project and effects on the bass. Will share data on what they know, how they can protect the fish and maintain the trophy fishing that everyone enjoys. Meeting will be Monday the 12th at 5:30 pm. Pizza will be provided.
- Elizabeth reported a new Writers group that is starting, their first meeting will be February 23rd, 3pm at the Adult Learning Center, in the upstairs of the VFW. They envision the writers group being a mixture of folks – those who write for the newspaper, who write short stories, or poetry and those who have published fiction. What they hope to gain from this group is support, critique of their writing, feedback, shared resources, and information sharing. A news release will be coming that explains more about their group.
- Dr. Kelly McGrath is bringing the Telluride Film Festival to Orofino this March. Mountainfilm on Tour brings a selection of culturally rich, adventure-packed and incredibly inspiring documentary films curated from the Mountainfilm festival held every Memorial Day weekend in Telluride, Colorado. The tour will soon visit Orofino, Idaho at the Rex Theater on March 16, 2018, with films that will explore the themes connected to Mountainfilm's mission: using the power of film, art and ideas to inspire audiences to create a better world. A Mountainfilm presenter will guide the audience through the program providing insight on the films, filmmakers and subjects. The show kicks off at 5:30pm (90 minute matinee) and 7:30pm (150 minute feature). Tickets will be available the day of the event at the Rex Theatre. The cost is \$10 for matinee show and \$15 for the extended feature presentation. See the complete playlist at www.mountainfilm.org/tour/schedule. Mountainfilm on tour in Orofino is hosted by Kelly McGrath. Mountain film for Students: whenever and wherever Mountainfilm is on tour, the aim is to educate and inspire beyond our theater audiences. Mountainfilm for Students is a free educational outreach initiative that introduces students in K-12 public schools to essential environmental, cultural and social issues with age-appropriate film programs. Mountainfilm currently reaches over 20,000 students each year. Mountainfilm for Students will be presented on March 15th in Weippe at Timberline School and in Orofino at Orofino Elementary and Junior/Senior High School.
- Joe Pippenger updated us on the Orofino economic development projects for Chris St. Germaine.
 - The trail/pathway/sidewalk improvement – the children pedestrian application was not awarded, we have constructive comments from LHTAC – the IDPR rec trail program grant has been submitted for path between Cedar and Hospital Drive.
 - Igniting Innovation Project – grant awarded for cad software and 3D printer to support inventors

- Foodie group is brewing with focus on food processing – we are working to identify all local certified kitchens where they could rent/lease... have Tanna on list for the larger former shot glass kitchen
- A writers group is soon to kick off
- Working with 2degrees NW on a tourism project to promote local artisans
- Working with several CNC/machine shop folks to get them certified for government contracting as there is a DOD development in the wind for Idaho and INL.
- On the 13th they will be having a meeting and will be honoring Mike Cook as he will be stepping off the board, he will be greatly missed.
- **Drawing for Free Lunch**
Michelle Gladhart from Banner Bank is the winner of free lunch.
- **Executive Director Report: Melina Johnson**
 - New Member Packets out to:
 - Jt. School Dist. 171
 - Family Dollar
 - Huge influx of relocation packets last 2 weeks from CA, TX, MO, WA, AR & AK
 - Went to Konkolville and Welcomed new owners, they were not there. Will have to go out again. Elizabeth from Clearwater Tribune also went out and welcomed them.
 - Personally delivered auction letter & flyer, 2018 chamber sticker and survey to members that have renewed. If you have not renewed now is the time.
 - Working on an ad for the Clearwater Tribune Vacation Guide
 - Updating records as switched to Online, spent several days getting all our financial records updated.
 - New Merchandise at the Office – come check it out
 - Taxes done, need to be signed and finalized.
 - Trail Support letter to the mayor. Another update on the Trails group, Julie Chenoweth and family will not be allowing access for trail to be on their land, will need to find an alternate route. Working on a new route for the new trails.
- **Committee Reports**
 - **CCED – Chris St. Germain:**
See Announcements.
 - **Legislative Committee –**
None Reported.
 - **Welcoming's-**
 - **Olive's Auto Parts – Unable to attend again. Maybe next month.**
 - **Firehouse Ice**
 - **Cornerstone Tile & Construction**
 - **Lewis Clark Bluegrass Org**
They have a Bluegrass Festival scheduled for June 1st-2nd, more information to come.
 - **Special Events:**

Community Clean-Up: April 28th



Meeting for Community Cleanup is tomorrow at 12pm at Augies. Have already received \$50 sponsorship from city and county. City has been advised we need a dump truck. Emailed Stephanie

about getting flyers and advertising ready for this event also. Mo Pare came and updated me on the event. Jeff Jones provided me with contacts from previous years. UFO will be doing all the food for the event and will be preparing the food as well. City will still do the free burning permits.

Chamber Auction: May 4th



Working on getting sponsorships for the Auction. Donations have started coming in, will be working on getting more donation, and should be hearing from us soon. Please be thinking about what you would like to donate. Tickets are on sale now, get your ticket before April 15th and you will be entered into a drawing for \$500 cash.

Maniac Dam Race: June 9th



Working with Michelle East, with the Corp. of Engineers, have permit application filled out and turned in. We have shirt sponsorship from P1FCU for \$1000, CVHC will be sponsoring the chip timing for \$1000, and Matt Sartini will get LCSC chip timing. Stephanie with WebInk is working on the flyer for advertising.

Riverbank Music Festival: August 4th



Artists have been booked, Craig Morgan will be our headliner. Tickets will go on sale April 2nd. Website is up and running, you can go on there and see the artists and click on their link and listen to some of their music. Looking for Sponsors for this event. If interested please let us know. Website is:

<https://www.oroфинoriverbankmusicfestival.com/>

- **New Business:**
None

- **Program: Andrew Skowlund presenting on Nez Perce – Clearwater National Forest**

Andrew Skowlund is the NorthFork District Ranger. He has been here 2 ½ years, he grew up in Wisconsin, did his undergraduate in Minnesota, and started his Forestry career in western WA. He later went to graduate school at the University of WA in natural resources economics which led to his work with the US Forest Service. He loves the location and the lifestyle his job brings, (fishing, hiking, etc.).

The mission of the Forest Service is "To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's **forests** and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations." Its motto is "Caring for the land and serving people." The North Fork District has over 824,000 acres of land that he manages. There is about 1400 miles of road that they manage with one grader and a 4-man crew, it is a struggle to keep up on maintaining roads with not enough resources. He has to prioritize what is high, medium and low priorities and work through it. Most people are familiar with forest service land when out recreating. When they go out fishing, hiking, hunting, that is where forest service interacts with the public that they serve. There is a lot that they do that the public doesn't hear about, his main job is managing timber, range lands, and mineral extractions. There are elements that are geared toward conservation and elements geared toward extraction. A big part of his job is to figure out vegetation management, where to harvest timber, where to do prescribed burning, (he doesn't have any grazing allotments to deal with like other areas have). A very important partner is the outfitting guide businesses, he has about 15 outfitting guides he works with. Some do horseback riding trips others do big game hunting trips. It is great as most people would not see these parts of the county without the guides, most people wouldn't put on a back pack and hike out 20 miles to see these secluded areas. The North Fork District has 8 developed campgrounds out there. About 600,000 is managed under the Idaho Roadless rule. 250-300,000 is proposed wilderness.

Andrew had a map that showed areas they are working on that have forest health issues. Some of the projects are in contract and are being logged right now, some are further out, some have only begin looking at the problems and working on the plan. Some of the issues they are dealing with in these areas are wildlife habitat improvement and bug infestation. In dealing with forest health, he has two tools, one is prescribed burning, and the other is timber harvest. He believes timber harvest is more effective as he can target certain areas, certain trees, sizes or types. Prescribed burning is more effective to reset some of the decadent brush fields and have them re-sprout and provide better forage for elk, moose, deer, etc. In the Cool Marsh area there is a landslide that came down in 1997 and blocked off access to one of their areas, now they have to figure out how to get around or over the slide so they can treat some of that ground. He estimates it will cost around 1-1.5 million dollars. Some of the figures for the past projects: The Preacher Dewey project produced about 9.6 million board feet, The Middle Bugs Project produced about 5.6 million board feet, the Lower Grand Project produced about 10.4 million board feet, and the Barnyard South Sheep Project produced about 13.2 million board feet. 60 million board feet is their target per year, would like to double to 120 million over the next few years. The timber sales is good for our communities and local economy, the loggers and truckers and all those folks working. Andrew provided a document that shows estimates on how the Nez Perce - Clearwater Nation Forest timber sales has supported our local communities. It has supported about 2100 jobs in the area, and about 85,400,000 annual labor income.

A national issue we have - about 85 million of land are at moderate to high risk of fire danger. Need to be more efficient to get ahead of wildfire issue. Right now we spend between 55-65% of entire budget on fire management. If we could put that much towards forest health things would be very different. Funds will not be changed until congress changes their focus. The focus needs to change so that the health of the forest is taken priority and not left to Mother Nature taking care of it, as that equates to wild fires.

The Forest Service is currently working under a Forest plan that was done in 1987, this plan is very dated and does not reflect current tools and technology. A revision to this plan is currently in the works, a huge amount of work goes into this. They have had some public meetings, asking "this is your land, how should we manages it?" The new plan is projected to be finalized in 2020, this new plan will help them determine how to manage the land, looking at new tools and technology that wasn't there in 1987.

The Good neighbor law says the Forest Service can work with neighbors and state and other agencies to work across boundaries. They have used this law to work with the state on timber sales. They contract with the State for the timber sales as they can work faster, and the revenue from the sales can go back to forest health and restoration. This is a new way of doing business for them.

Currently the Forest Service Office is on Hwy 12, this is the same building that used to hold the Supervisors Office at which time they had about 75 employees housed in that building. Right now he has about 20 full time employees and 20-30 seasonal employees. This facility is not federally owned and after 20 years, the lease is up. The building is out for lease renewal or for open competition. They may be moving or may be renovated for current needs, they hope to have the lease award by the end of March.

- **Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm.